



Image

2827

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Nobuaki HASHIMOTO

Group Art Unit: 2827

Application No.: 09/615,503

Examiner: D. Graybill

Filed: July 13, 2000

Docket No.: 101929.02

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME, CIRCUIT BOARD, AND ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 19, 2003 Office Action, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 10 and 11 have been withdrawn from consideration.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 9 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. 5,905,633 Shim et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action concedes that Shim does not disclose providing a plurality external terminals on each of the substrates after step b of claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action assertion that it would have been a matter of design choice because the Applicant has not disclosed that the limitation is for a particular unobvious purpose, produces an unexpected result, or is otherwise critical. Specifically, the specification provides that it is difficult to provide an external terminal in a reel to reel transport system. (See e.g. page 3, lines 1-4). Furthermore, in the invention of claim 1, if a faulty sample occurs in the step of providing the external terminals, the disposal losses are less than in a reel to reel transport

system. (See e.g. page 3, lines 6-8). Thus, Applicant provides that the sequence is for a particular unobvious purpose, produces an unexpected result and is otherwise critical

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shim further in view of U.S. 5,583,378 to Marrs et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's assertion that Marrs teaches providing a plurality of external terminals after the step of attaching a plurality of semiconductor chips and cutting the tape to obtain the substrate. Instead, Marrs discloses a conventional approach where external terminals are provided prior to cutting the tape. (See e.g., col. 6, lines 40-44 and col. 10, lines 25-32).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Michael Britton  
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JAO:MQB/aaw

Date: February 5, 2004

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